

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-4, 7-12, 15, 17, 23 and 25 stand allowed, with claims 6 and 19 standing objected to, but allowable if corrected. Claims 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In order to advance this application to allowance, the Applicants are requesting amendment of the pending claims to cancel claims 20-22, and to correct claims 6 and 19. Specifically, claim 6 would be amended to delete the word "continuous," so that this claim would refer to the belt first recited in claim 1. Claim 19 would be amended to correct its dependency to claim 15, in accordance with the Examiner's helpful suggestion.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully request entry of the requested amendments and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1, 3-4, 6-12, 15, 17, 19, 23 and 25.

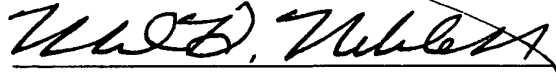
If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit

Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #080437/49710US).

Respectfully submitted,

November 17, 2004

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Donald D. Evenson", written over a horizontal line.

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